Docket No.: P-0123 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of
Jung-Min SONG et al.

Serial No.: 09/666,282

Filed: 9/21/2000

Confirmation No.: 8405

Group Art Unit: 2151

Examiner: Khanh Q. Dinh

Customer No.: 34610

For: MULTIMEDIA SEARCH AND BROWSING METHOD USING MULTIMEDIA USER PROFILE INFORMATION STRUCTURE

PRE-APPEAL BRIEF REQUEST FOR REVIEW

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
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Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Sir:

Applicants request review of the final rejection in the above-identified application. No amendments are being filed with this Request. This Request is being filed with a Notice of Appeal. The review is requested for the reasons on the attached sheet.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
FLESHNER & KIM, LLP

Carol L. Druzbick
Registration No. 40,287

P. O. Box 221200
Chantilly, VA 20153-1200
703 766-3701 CLD/kah
Date: December 16, 2005

Remarks in Support of Pre-Appeal Brief Request for Review

Claims 1-11 and 13-18 are pending in this application.

The Final Office Action dated October 21, 2005 rejected claims 1-11 and 13-18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Axaopoulous et al. (hereinafter "Axaopoulous"), U.S. Patent No. 6,286,002. Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection.

Axaopoulous discloses a server 100 having an operating system 101. The operating system 101 includes a server program 102, a market place program 104, and a database 106. The market place program 104 includes a taxonomy tree with agents 105. Clients 110, 120 interact with the server 100 via the Internet 130, and each client 110, 120 includes a market place interface application 114, 124.

The taxonomy tree 105 referred to by the Examiner in her rejection is part of the market place program 104, which enables users to search for products important to those users and communicate users' needs for those products. See col. 5, lines 37-39 of Axaopoulous. The market place program 104 also allows suppliers of products to analyze the needs of consumers. See col. 5, lines 39-41.

The tree 105 includes a number of nodes through which users can refine their definition of needs. See col. 6, lines 10-12 of Axaopoulous. The users traverse the tree 105 node by node to refine their search. See col. 6, lines 23-24 of Axaopoulous. Further, Axaopoulous teaches that the market place program 140 is capable of maintaining a history of a consumer's needs beyond the time in which the user is connected to the market place program 104. See col. 6, lines 12-16 of Axaopoulous. Furthermore, Axaopoulous teaches that the tree 105 can support

multiple paths to the same definition of what a user is searching for. See col. 6, lines 26-27 of Axaopoulous.

However, the tree 105 merely provides a user with optional selections to define a specific search or navigational path. See col. 7, lines 23-24 of Axaopoulous. Thus, the tree 105 allows the user to create a more specific search or navigational path resulting in a reduced number of hits, in comparison to the prior art discussed in the "Background of the Invention" section of Axaopoulous. The specific user selected search or navigational path does not control the order of display of the search results according to user preference information.

More specifically, with respect to independent claim 1, Axaopoulous does not disclose or suggest a multimedia user profile information structure stored in a computer readable medium for indexing and browsing a multimedia object, comprising prioritized search item ordering criteria for searching and browsing the multimedia object, and user preference information for each of a plurality of the search item ordering criteria for displaying search items to be browsed in the search item ordering criteria in a prescribed order according to the user preference information, wherein a first user preference information selects a first prioritized search item ordering criteria to display a set of search items including classifications within one search item category in a first order, and a second user preference information selects a second prioritized search item ordering criteria to display the set of search items within said search item category in a second order different from the first order. Further, with respect to independent claim 7, Axaopoulous does not disclose or suggest a multimedia search and browsing method using multimedia user profile information for indexing and browsing a multimedia object, comprising displaying search items in order of user preference on the basis of item priority criteria according

to the user preference by using search item ordering criteria information including the user preference about the item priority criteria, and browsing a multimedia search object after searching the multimedia search object using by the search items displayed according to the user preference, wherein a first item priority criteria displays a set of search items within one at least one search item classification in a first order, and a second item priority criteria displays the set of search items in a second order different from the first order, wherein the search item ordering criteria information including the user preference selects the first or second item priority criteria.

Additionally, with respect to independent claim 8, Axaopoulous does not disclose or suggest a search item preference information structure stored in a computer readable medium for searching and browsing a multimedia, comprising a search object that is a portion of a multimedia data stream of the multimedia, a search item that is criterion of indexing the multimedia, connection information that connects search items to search objects, preference criteria information for determining priority criteria of each search item, and a multimedia object including the preference criteria information according to each priority criterion, wherein the search items of a selected multimedia are provided in an ordered arrangement according to the priority criteria of the multimedia object, wherein a first user priority criteria displays a plurality of search item objects corresponding to at least one search item in a first order, and a second user priority criteria displays the plurality of search item objects in a second order different from the first order, and wherein the preference criteria information determines an ordered sequence among the priority criteria including the first and second priority criteria for displaying the search item objects. Also, with respect to independent claim 11, Axaopoulous does not disclose or suggest a multimedia search and browsing method using a user profile information structure for

indexing and browsing a multimedia object, wherein the user profile information structure comprises a search object which is a multimedia data stream, a search item which is criterion of indexing, connection information which connects the each search item to a corresponding search object, ordering criteria information for providing ordering criteria of each search item, a multimedia object including the ordering criteria information in accordance with each ordering criterion, wherein the ordering criteria comprises item categories for including corresponding items having criteria of the search and browsing, a user profile including preference value informing user preference about the ordering criteria information of the multimedia object for said each item category, the method comprising selecting the ordering criteria information in order of the preference value of the user profile on the each search item in search and browsing of the multimedia, displaying the multimedia items by using the ordering criteria information of the user profile, and browsing the search object after searching the search object indicated by the search items displayed according to the user preference, wherein a first ordering criteria information displays a set of search items within at least one search item classification in a first order, and a second ordering criteria information displays the search items within said at least one search item classification in a second order different from the first order, wherein the preference values for user preference select an order among a plurality of ordering criteria information including the first and second ordering criteria information.

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner asserts that:

> Axaopoulous discloses a multimedia user profile information structure stored in a computer medium for indexing and browsing a multimedia object (information products including media data) comprising: prioritizing search item ordering criteria for searching and browsing the multimedia object (allowing users to make their choice according to their priorities with three different types of nodes, see

figs. 1, 2, col. 6, line 20-col. 6, line 27) user preference information (using users' choice) for each of a plurality of the search item ordering criteria for displaying search items to be browsed in t he search item ordering criteria order according to the user preference information (for example, displaying order of selection back to users to identify the information of interest to user, see col. 7, lines 23-65 and col. 9, lines 8-59), wherein a first user reference information selects a first prioritized search item order in criteria to display a set of search items including classifications within one search item category in a first order (in fig. 2, user selects the first type as automobile option mode out of the three possible choices, automobile, employment and real estate; in fig. 12, the automobile option enabling users to select the terms, exterior colors, mileage) and a second user reference information selects a second prioritized search item order criteria to display the set of search items within said search item criteria in a second order different from the first order (users can select the other two child nodes/categories as a second user preference information such as employment and real estate, see fig. 12, col. 10, line 3 to col. 11, line 26 and col. 14, lines 9-55).

However, as set forth above, the taxonomy tree 105 merely allows users to refine their search query. It does not control or prioritize an order of the search results based on user preferences. In fact, there is no teaching in Axaopoulous as to how the search results are ordered in display, much less a teaching that the search results are displayed in a prescribed order according to user preference information.

Accordingly, reversal of the rejection of independent claims 1, 7-8, and 11 over Axaopoulous is respectfully requested. Dependent claims 2-6, 9-10, and 13-18 are allowable over Axaopoulous at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claims 1, 7-8, and 11, from which they respectively depend, as well as for their added features.